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SUBJECT: SLOVENIA WARY OF LMOS, WON'T ATTEND MEETING ON
CARTAGENA PROTOCOL

REF: SECSTATE 11910

11. Emboffs met with Simona Rogl, Head of Service for EU Coordination and International Affairs and State Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food on February 11 to discuss cross-border movement of living modified organisms (LMOs) and the U.S. position on the Cartagena Protocol, per reftel. Rogl repeatedly stressed that Slovenia remained cautious about all aspects of production, consumption, and transportation of LMOs. She stated that Slovenia would not resist any LMO that had been scientifically evaluated in a three-year study. Specifically, Slovenia wanted to see the effects on beef from cattle fed exclusively LMO corn for three years. While Slovenia intended to push its views in Brussels, due to the economic recession, Slovenia was cutting back on travel expenses and was unlikely to send a representative to the conference in Mexico City. She concluded that Slovenia would follow the EU line on LMOs, and would not impose any stronger restrictions than the EU mandates.
FREDEN